

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /066 W
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R 141530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2593

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THEHAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

DIA

AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11735

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: THE "INSTITUTIONAL COMPROMISE", SUCCESSOR
TO MORO GOVERNMENT?

REF: ROME 11430

1. AS POLITICIANS DISAPPEARED INTO THEIR VACATION HIDEAWAYS,
THE SOCILAISTS OPENED THE DEBATE ON WHAT IS TO HAPPEN TO THE
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NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN THE FALL BY LAUNCHING A TRIAL BALLOON.

SECRETARIAT MEMBER ENRICO MANCA HAS PROPOSED THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COMPROMISE ACHIEVED IN LOMBARDY AND CAMPANIA AS A MODEL FOR THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. THESE HAVE ADMINISTRATIONS COMPRISED OF THE CENTER-LEFT PARTIES IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMS FORMALLY NEGOTIATED WITH THE COMMUNISTS WHO GIVE "EXTERNAL" SUPPORT BY ABSTENTION. (THIS FORMULA HAS BEEN DUBBED THE "INSTITUTIONAL COMPROMISE" BY ITS CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ADHERENTS IN MILAN.)

2. DESPITE THE EFFECTIVE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS COMPROMISE BY ALL THE CENTER-LEFT PARTIES IN THE REGIONS CITED, THE FIRST REACTION BY LEADERS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (DC), SOCIAL DEMOCRATS (PSDI), AND THE REPUBLICANS (PRI) TO THE MANCA PROPOSAL ARE ALL NEGATIVE. DC LEFTWING LEADER DONAT CATTIN IS FORTHRIGHT IN CONDEMNING IT AS "A GREAT CONFUSION", AND WARNS THAT "ONLY THOSE WHO ARE PROMOTORS OF RESIGNATION AND LIQUIDATION CAN LIVE WITH AMBIGUITY". HE CASTS FOR THE DC AN "AUTONOMOUS" ROLE WHICH IS NEITHER "EXPRIATION IN OPPORTUNISM" NOR THE "BLOC OF THE RIGHT".Z

3. COMMENT: THE FORMULA, OR A VARIANT OF IT, WOULD NEATLY SATISFY A BASIC SOCIALIST CONDITION FOR CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE "NATIONAL MAJORITY", THAT OF ASSOCIATING THE PCI TO THE MAJORITY. IT WOULD ALSO AVOID RECOURSE TO EARLY NATIONAL ELECTIONS, AN INCREASINGLY HORRIFYING PROSPECT TO THE DC. ITS APPEAL FOR THE DC REMAINS TO BE TESTED IN THE FALL, WHEN THE SOCIALISTS ARE LIKELY TO INSIST ON GIVING THE RESULTS OF JUNE 15. THEIR DUE EFFECT ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL.VOLPE

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